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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS



# RAD NEWSLETTER

June 1965

No. 69

## FACE-LIFTING IN REVERSE

Local RAD leaders are turning back the clock in St. Joseph, Louisiana, -- remodeling the town's Main Street to recapture the look of a thriving Mississippi River port in the 1850's.

The idea, of course, is to boost the tourist trade.

Hitching rails are "must" items in front of downtown stores, and swinging doors are back. A service station is being transformed to look like a livery stable. The Tensas Parish Resource Development Commission also is trying to put an old ferry back into service.

Old plantation homes are being restored and the route of Grant's Civil War March through the area marked.

Other developments include building of a quarter horse racetrack, and a community-wide tulip planting program. The Commission also is working to establish an Indian museum to show off artifacts unearthed by anthropologists.

## LOCAL LEADERS PRIME ECONOMIC PUMP; TAP EXTRA DIVIDENDS

Local leaders in two Virginia towns faced a familiar water problem -- too much water in the spring meant flooding and lots of mud, and lack of water at other times held back expansion.

Then, the towns of Keysville and Drakes Branch joined forces with County Board of Supervisors and the local Soil Conservation District to tackle the water problem. They sponsored the 141,000-acre Roanoke Creek Watershed project, receiving technical and financial help from USDA's Soil Conservation Service and Farmers Home Administration.



In Keysville, citizens voted a bond issue to pay for a new \$315,000 water system and to enlarge a watershed dam to provide extra water storage for municipal use. The water supply has brought extra dividends -- a

textile plant, employing 250 people, stepped up production 25 percent and plans a further expansion. "This means more jobs for our town," Mayor Howard H. Harmer, Jr., says. "Other industries, attracted by our new water resource, are considering Keysville as the likely site for their new plants."

Nearby Drakes Branch is not only protected from floods but now has a plentiful water supply for expansion and recreation. The town raised \$32,000 to pay its share of the cost of enlarging a dam for municipal water storage.



Area residents also enjoy freedom from floods and the costly clean-ups. And the new reservoirs bring the added attraction of recreation, additional summer cottages and year-round homes.

#### \$45 MILLION MEDICAL "COMMUNITY" PLANNED

Construction is scheduled to start next spring on a \$45 million medical park near Sullivan, Illinois that will offer everything from a 300-bed hospital and diagnostic clinic to a resort inn on a lake shore.

The development is an outgrowth of Moultrie County RAD and Area Redevelopment Administration efforts dating back to 1962. State and local Cooperative Extension leaders and the Technical Action Panel worked closely with the RAD committee and Sullivan city officials in various steps of the development.

The non-profit medical park will be located on the shore of a lake being created by a U. S. Army Engineers' project.

#### COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM GUIDE AVAILABLE

A complete "how-to-do-it" book on Community Action Programs under the War on Poverty is now available for community leaders. It covers almost all of the steps for formulating a community action plan, types of projects eligible for Federal grants, and how to prepare an application.

Free single copies of "Community Action Program Guide," Volume 1, are available for community leaders. Write: Editor, RAD Newsletter, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., 20250.

#### RAD ACTIVITY REPORT FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE

A recent report on New Hampshire's RAD activities at the Governor's Conference on Outdoor Recreation included these County highlights:

Belknap -- Sponsored meeting that led to organization of Community Action Program.

Carroll -- Surveyed high school graduates who left the County to determine why they left and what would induce them to return.

Cheshire -- Joining with Merrimack and Hillsboro Counties in preliminary talks on possibility of a Contoocook River Basin study.

Coos -- Made final arrangements for private planning consultant to prepare a county-wide development plan.



Grafton -- Wrote Overall Economic Development Program leading to an ARA loan to expand a local ski development; Accelerated Public Works for local hospitals, roads, and sewer systems, and unemployed workers retained under Manpower Development and Training Act.

Hillsboro -- Conducted extensive analysis of existing and potential water recreation sites, and did follow-up work to develop several sites.

Merrimack -- Sub-committees working on pollution abatement on Suncook River and on the problem of junked automobiles.

Rockingham -- Studying the county's land recording system and pushing State and National recreation legislation.

Stafford -- Pushing development of outdoor recreation on the seacoast. Offered USDA Technical Action Panel assistance on recreation development to bay towns as part of this plan.

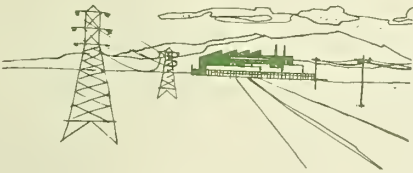
Sullivan -- Sponsored meeting that led to organization of Community Action committee.



FRIENDSHIP, WIS., GIVES "FRIENDLY" WELCOME TO "HOOD" PLANT

A new range hood manufacturing plant bringing 20 new jobs to Friendship, Wisconsin, will be finished late this summer and already the company has more orders than it can fill this year. Wisconsin's Governor was on hand for the ground breaking ceremonies this past February.

Late in 1963, H. T. Anderson decided to start a business making range ventilating hoods. James G. Joyce, manager of the Adams-Marquette Electric Cooperative at Friendship, helped Anderson find a plant site and put him in touch with the local development company, formed by co-op and other area leaders. But, the new company needed outside financing to supplement its available capital. That's when Joyce turned to the Small Business Administration (SBA).



The local development company raised \$46,000 and a local bank participated with SBA in making a \$184,000 loan to the development company. The bank's portion of the loan was \$18,400. Approved in November 1964, the 15-year loan was made under section 502 -- the section to the Small Business Investment Act which provides loans to local development companies.

#### AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATIONS' PUBLICATIONS USEFUL TO RAD COMMITTEES

If your local development committee is looking for ways to expand agricultural markets or in need of background information on agriculture, check with your State Agricultural Experiment Station at the land-grant university.

For example, the University of New Hampshire's Agricultural Experiment Station recently published "Agricultural Industries of New Hampshire -- Recent Developments and Prospects." The mimeograph gives a complete roundup of New Hampshire's agricultural resources, farm situation and discusses its major agricultural industries, and the demand and supply picture for the 1960's.

## NEW TIMBER REPORT OFF THE PRESS

A new comprehensive appraisal of the Nation's timber supply and expected demands shows that 60 percent of the commercial forest land is in small private holdings (mainly on farms and ranches). They provide about one-half of the timber we use. Public forests make up 27 percent and industrial forests 13 percent of the commercial forest land.

For a six-page fact sheet (Forestry in the United States a Real Success Story) which gives highlights of the report, write: Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., 20250. For the complete 235-page appraisal (Forest Resources Report No. 17), send \$1.75 to Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 20402.

## POVERTY LOAN REPAYMENT EIGHT MONTHS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

One of the first borrowers of an economic opportunity loan in Puerto Rico has made a partial repayment -- eight months before the first full payment is due.

Telesforo Sotomayor Tore, 56, whose income last year was \$1,400, received a \$1,200 loan to expand his small drygoods business. Sotomayor earned his repayment through the door-to-door sale of yard goods in rural Puerto Rico. Sotomayor plans to rent and equip a small retail store with part of his economic opportunity loan. He expects to double his income next year because of the help from the loan, which was made through USDA's Farmers Home Administration.

Nationally, more than 7,250 low-income rural families have received economic opportunity loans since the program started five months ago. Also, 12 cooperative associations serving low-income rural families have borrowed \$262,250.

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